

## Applying to colleges

### Applying to College

While serving West Virginians in Congress I have strongly supported full funding for the numerous student loan and tuition assistance programs, worked on bringing federal funding for the expansion of programs and resources in our local colleges and universities, and worked to reduce the tax burden on families who are spending their hard-earned money on tuition.

Oftentimes, affording college is the biggest hurdle to aspiring students, which is why I have listed below numerous links to information on student loans and available scholarships. One option is West Virginia's innovative, new approach to paying for college with their SMART529 college savings plan. Another excellent option is the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) which can provide everything from leadership training to full paid tuition. Please take a moment to explore the numerous scholarship opportunities available to everyone from Eagle Scouts to aspiring architects, it may surprise you what all is available.

Whether you are in fifth grade or years out of high school there is never a wrong time to plan for college. The process can be often be challenging and sometimes discouraging, but I the opportunities are great and the rewards limitless. I wish you the best of luck in getting into the school of your choice and hope you find the information below to be a useful tool in navigating the college application process.

Sincerely,

Nick J. Rahall, II.

Apply

Apply Online to a West Virginia School

Plan for College

## Student Loan/Financial Aid Information

Financial Aid Wizard -Explore your financial aid needs and options with a step-by-step process for calculating your cost of attendance and expected family contribution, and discovering potential scholarships and loans available to you. If you're planning on going to college in the future, we can't predict what you might be awarded then, but you can find out what you'd get if you applied this year. Use that as a guide as you prepare for the time you enter college.

Overview of the different type of grants and loans available to West Virginia residents.

Apply for a Federal Student Loan

West Virginia Higher Education Commission

Find a Loan:

West Virginia College Savings Plan

Scholarships

West Virginia's Promise Program

ROTC Scholarship Information - From the Princeton Review

Scholarship Directory

ROTC: Army

[ROTC: Air Force](#)

[ROTC: Navy](#)

[Scholarship Search](#)

[FastWeb](#)

[Free Scholarship Search](#)

[Grants for Individuals](#)

[SRN Express](#)

[Princeton Review: Scholarships and Aid](#)

[Interested in public service?](#)

Federal assistance programs seek to encourage people to work in geographic areas or professions where there's a particular need (such as doctors in underserved areas); encourage underrepresented groups to enter a particular profession; and provide aid in exchange for services provided (such as military service).

[AmeriCorps](#)

Volunteers who complete one year of service receive an education award for current higher education expenses or to repay student loans.

#### Army Continuing Education System

Additional benefits for Army personnel.

#### Bureau of Health Professions

Scholarships and loans to needy health profession students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

#### e-Scholar

Scholarships, grants, fellowships, internships, and cooperative education with federal agencies.

#### Indian Health Service

Scholarships for American Indian/Alaskan Native health profession students and loan repayment for persons working in IHS facilities.

#### National Health Service Corps

Scholarships and loan repayment for health profession students who agree to work in underserved areas.

#### Nursing Scholarships

Offered in exchange for two years of service in areas with critical nursing shortages.

#### Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC)

For students who want to be commissioned as officers after graduating from college.